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**US Army Corps
 of Engineers**®
 Portland District

Fern Ridge Lake, Oregon

TO ENJOY A SAFE OUTING OBSERVE THESE SAFETY TIPS

BOATING

Wear a personal flotation device (PFD), and observe posted boating speeds at all times.

WATER SKIING

Have two people in the tow boat, one to drive and one to watch the skier. Avoid skiing near swimmers and fishermen. ALWAYS wear a life jacket when skiing and NEVER ski after dusk.

FISHING

Stay clear of boat channels and swimming areas. While trolling, watch the water ahead for boats, swimmers and underwater obstacles.

SWIMMING

Use the buddy system. Swim only in posted swimming areas away from docks and boating areas.

UNDERWATER HAZARDS

Floating logs, submerged stumps and rocks are present in the lake. Be especially watchful for obstructions near the shoreline.

SMALL CRAFT WARNINGS

Dangerous waves can build up suddenly. Stay out of open waters when winds become threatening.

SEAPLANE INSTRUCTIONS

Please exercise caution - heavy boat traffic may be encountered when landing on the lake. Refer to *Seaplane Operations at Corps Lakes* for specific regulations.

FIRE PREVENTION

The fire potential is generally high during the recreation season. Help prevent forest fires by putting out camp fires completely and disposing of all refuse in trash cans. Build fires only in designated fire rings.

Under the Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979, it is illegal to excavate or remove artifacts from federal land. Violators are subject to a fine of not more than \$100,000, imprisonment of not more than five years, and forfeiture of all equipment (including vehicles) used in connection with a violation.

Federal rules and regulations concerning the use of areas are set forth in Title 36, Chapter III of the Code of Federal Regulations and are on display in the areas of the project most frequently used by the public.



Fern Ridge Lake, located just outside of Eugene, is operated by the Corps of Engineers as part of a system of thirteen multi-purpose dams and reservoirs that make up the Willamette Valley Project. These dams and reservoirs work together for the purposes of flood damage reduction, hydropower generation, irrigation, recreation, fish and wildlife enhancement, and downstream water quality improvement within the Willamette River drainage system.

Dam Operations

Fern Ridge Dam is an earthfill structure with a gated concrete spillway and outlet works for regulating lake levels. The dam was completed in 1941 at a cost of \$6 million. Since then, it has prevented more than \$415 million in potential flood damages. During flood season, the dams hold back water to regulate downstream flows. After the flood season passes, the water level in the reservoir is raised slowly for the summer recreation season. During the dry summer months, water is released into the river for irrigation and to improve downstream water quality.

Recreation

Fern Ridge Lake is a popular destination for fishing, boating, water skiing, swimming, camping, picnicking, hunting and bird-watching. Six park sites and several remote access points offer a variety of day-use recreation opportunities. Overnight camping is available at Richardson Park, operated by Lane County Parks, and Fern Ridge Shores, operated by a private concessionaire.

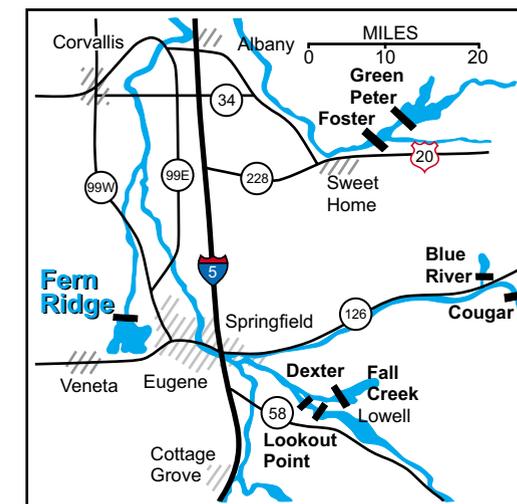
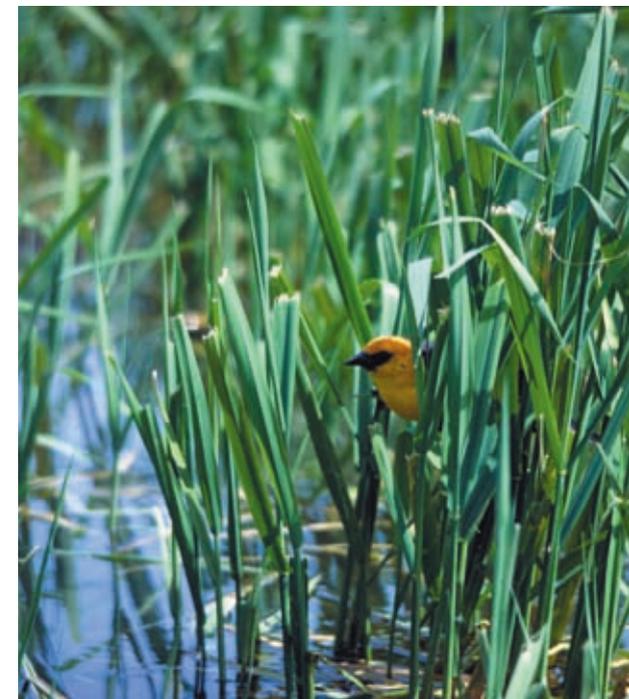
Environmental Stewardship

The upland prairies and extensive wetlands at Fern Ridge provide unique habitats for a great variety of plants and animals. Land and water throughout the area is managed by the Corps of Engineers and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to develop and maintain suitable habitat for many species of waterfowl, upland game and non-game wildlife.

Project Data

	Measure	Metric
Dam		
Length	6,330 ft	1929.28 m
Height	44 ft	13.41 m
Elevation (NGVD*)	379.5 ft	115.66 m
Lake		
Length	4.5 mi	7.2405 km
Area when full	9,000 ac	3688.5 ha

* NGVD National Geodetic Vertical Datum (Mean Sea Level)





FERN RIDGE LAKE	Restrooms	Drinking Water	Picnicking	Swimming Area	Boat Launch	Marina	Camp Sites	RV Camp/Utilities	Playground	Fees Charged	Hiking Trail
Richardson Park (Lane County Parks)											
Orchard Point Park (Lane County Parks)											
Perkins Peninsula Park (Lane County Parks)											
Fern Ridge Shores (Private Concession)											
Kirk Park (Corps of Engineers)											
Zumwalt Park (Lane County Parks)											
Shorelane Park (Lane County Parks)											
Royal Ave. Access to Wildlife Area											

